

Remarks

This Amendment is responsive to the November 21, 2005 Office Action. Reexamination and reconsideration of claims 1-11 and 13-18 is respectfully requested.

Summary of The Office Action

Claim 16 was objected to because the word “and” was missing and needed to be inserted in line 9 after “,”. The claim has been amended as suggested.

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as purportedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the word “type” was asserted to lead to indefiniteness. The word “type” has been removed from the claims as suggested.

Additionally, claims 2, 4, 6-11, 13, 15, 17 and 18 were identified as being allowable if amended to overcome this rejection. These claims have been amended as suggested and rewritten in independent form where suggested.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 12, 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Patent Application Publication US 2003/0110338 (Wang) in view of US Patent 6,697,352 issued to Ludwig et al. (Ludwig).

The Amendment

Claim 16 has been amended to address the informalities identified in the Office Action. Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13, 16, 17, and 18 have been amended (1) to remove the word “type” as suggested and (2) to be rewritten in independent form where appropriate.

The Claims Patentably Distinguish Over the References of Record

35 U.S.C. §103

To establish a prima facie case of 35 U.S.C. §103 obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. MPEP 2143.01 Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. MPEP 2143.02 Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. MPEP 2143.03 Additionally, the teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not in applicant's disclosure. In re Vaeck, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991). This requirement is intended to prevent unacceptable "hindsight reconstruction" where Applicant's invention is recreated from references using the Application as a blueprint.

Here, the third criteria described in MPEP 2143.03 is not satisfied since the combination of references does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations. None of the references, alone and/or in combination, teach detecting a data field and selectively extracting data from that data field to make a header field. Thus, none of the claims are obvious for at least this reason.

Independent Claim 1

Claim 1 is directed to a system for producing a bus transaction from a point to point (P2P) transaction. Claim 1 recites detecting a data field that stores data from which a header field can be produced in the resulting bus transaction. The reference does not disclose detecting this field and thus also does not teach selectively extracting the data from the data field. While Wang discloses P2P/bus conversion, the conversion is done by “propagating” without detecting. Conversion is simply performed without selective processing. Ludwig teaches en(de)capsulation associated with TCP headers. While Ludwig discloses headers and data fields being added and/or removed, there is no selective conversion of bus signals to P2P signals and/or P2P signals to bus signals based on the (non)existence of a (non)detected data field.

Since claim 1 recites features not taught or suggested by the reference, claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the reference. Accordingly, dependent claims 2-6 also patentably distinguish over the references and are allowable.

Dependent Claim 3

Amended Claim 3 depends from claim 2. Claim 2 is allowable. Thus, this claim is similarly allowable. Additionally, claim 3 recites extracting data from a data field in a bit-field wise manner. Since the references do not disclose extracting data from a data field, they also do not disclose extracting that data in a bit-field wise manner. For this additional reason this claim is not obvious.

Dependent Claim 5

Amended Claim 5 depends from claim 1. Claim 1 has been shown to be allowable. Thus, this claim is similarly allowable. Additionally, claim 5 recites that the bus transaction is a front-side bus transaction. A front-side bus is a particular type of bus that may be found inside a microprocessor. The references do not disclose performing conversions for a front-side bus. For this additional reason this claim is not obvious.

Claim 14

Claim 14 depends from claim 13, which has been rewritten in independent form and amended to remove the word “type”. Thus claim 14 is allowable.

Additionally, claim 14 recites the additional limitation of extracting data in a bit-field wise manner from a data flit. Since neither of the references disclose extracting data from a data flit, it follows that neither reference discloses extracting data in a bit-field wise manner. For this additional reason this claim is allowable.

Independent Claim 16

Claim 16 has been amended to remove the “type” language and to add the required “and” between the last two elements. Amended claim 16 also includes “examining a transaction type associated with a point-to-point transaction” as recited in the Examiner’s Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Thus, claim 16 is now allowable.

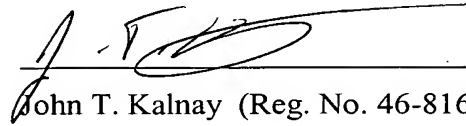
Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

While the Applicant agrees with the position of patentability of the claims, Applicant does not believe the paraphrased reasons of patentability (on page 4 of the Office Action) fully reflect the scope of the claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the scope of each allowed claim is based on the language corresponding to that claim and its equivalents.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, claims 1-11 and 13-18 patentably and unobviously distinguish over the references of record and are allowable. An early allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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